

## CLAIMS

- [C001] 1. An apparatus for washing clothing, said apparatus comprising:
- an agitator hub; and
  - an agitator vane mechanically coupled to said agitator hub at a proximal edge of said agitator vane,
  - said agitator vane having a vane height not monotonically decreasing from said proximal edge to a distal edge.
- [C002] 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said agitator vane is integral with said agitator hub.
- [C003] 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said agitator vane has a tangential linear compliance at said distal edge greater than about 2 centimeters per kilogram force.
- [C004] 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said agitator vane has a tangential linear compliance at said distal edge in a range from about 2.3 to about 2.9 centimeters per kilogram force.
- [C005] 5. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an auger mechanically coupled to said agitator hub.
- [C006] 6. An apparatus for washing clothing, said apparatus comprising:
- an agitator hub; and
  - an agitator vane mechanically coupled to said agitator hub at a proximal edge of said agitator vane,
  - said agitator vane having a vane height not monotonically decreasing from said proximal edge to a distal edge,
  - said agitator vane being integral with said agitator hub,

said agitator vane having a tangential linear compliance at said distal edge greater than about 2 centimeters per kilogram force.

[C007] 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said agitator vane has a tangential linear compliance at said distal edge in a range from about 2.3 to about 2.9 centimeters per kilogram force.

[C008] 8. The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising an auger mechanically coupled to said agitator hub.